

DRAFT

Employment Services Organization Steering Committee (ESOSC) April 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes DRS Central Office

Members Present: ESOAC Chair: Thalia Simpson-Clement, Chris Lavach, Robin Metcalf, Alisha Meador, Dave Wilber, Chuck McElroy, Ericka Neville, Sharon Bunger, Heather Norton, Marshall Henson, Bruce Phipps, Gary Cotta, Amy Thomas, Mark Keith, Lance Wright, Quintin Mitchell, Michelle Howard-Herbein for John Craig, Ryan Follett for Sharon Harrup, Beth Dugan Via VTC, Linda LaMona via VTC, and Nova Washington, via VTC

Members Absent: None

Guests Attending: Diana Messer, Veronica Rhame, Margie Stuart via VTC, Joanne Ellis, Karen Tefelski, Ed Rice, Lisa Morgan via VTC, Natalia Yu via VTC, Evan Jones, Chris Wright via VTC, April Pinch Keeler, Beth Burk, Lorie Rajput, Shirley Lyons, Cecil Kendrick

DRS Staff Attending: Kathy Hayfield, Donna Bonessi, Doug James and Carrie Worrell.

Call to Order:

Thalia Simpson-Clement, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and asked that all present to introduce themselves starting with the Committee members.

Draft Minutes Review and Approval:

A motion was made by Chuck McElroy and seconded by Chris Lavach to approve the minutes as written. The minutes were approved and are available on the ESSP Website under Minutes at <http://www.vadrs.org/essp/minutes.htm>

Commissioner Rothrock Comments:

Commissioner Rothrock reported that the General Assembly has not reached a budget agreement. It is expected that a budget will be released next week. New VR dollars are expected to be included as proposed by the Governor.

The Senate and House budget amounts differ for restoration to LTESS and EES. Joe Flores, staff to Senate Finance, has worked closely with DRS to understand the two funds. He has asked for additional information for each fund. The Senate finance committee has developed language in the Budget that states; ‘The Commissioner of Rehabilitative Services shall report on the provision of vocational rehabilitation and employment support services for individuals with disabilities. At a minimum, the report shall include an analysis of the effectiveness of these services, the number of individuals served, and the duration, average cost, and types of services provided including whether services are provided by public or private employers. The report shall include an update on the current employment status or employment support needs for prior year program participants. The report shall be provided to the chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees by October 1, 2012’.

The Commissioner congratulated all in attendance for successfully working with the GA to pass

SWAM designation legislation. He suggested that interested parties thank Logan Pugh, Governor's Office, who assisted in advocating for the legislation. The Department of Minority Business Enterprise (DMBE) had a phone conference with the Commissioner and Kathy Hayfield to discuss concerns of DMBE staff. The Commissioner and Kathy discussed that it would not be difficult or require additional staff on their part to certify ESO organizations. It is critical to be aware that while the SWAM designation may give ESOs a competitive edge when bidding for contracts, relationships with buyers at the local level are also key.

The Commissioner commented that approximately 3000 consumers have come off the waiting list since we began offering people in delayed status services.

DOJ Settlement is rolling out. The settlement will have an impact on DRS and the ESO community, but not immediately. The focus of activity is not on employment so much at this time but rather housing and case management.

Legislation merging DRS and VDA has been signed by the Governor. This will create a new state agency effective 7/1/12, likely to be called Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). In July, 2013 Adult Protective services will also be merged into the new agency. Commissioner Rothrock explained that there is a major effort underway to maintain the integrity of both programs. Local operations for both "divisions" will remain the same. State level operations will change. For example, the DARS management team will expand to include current VDA management and non client services such as HR and fiscal will see changes.

Commissioner Rothrock presented certificates of appreciation to the five people (Beth Dugan, John Craig, Chris Lavach, Bruce Phipps and Sharon Bunger) who will be rotating off the committee after today. The commissioner also welcomed the four new appointees Phil Nussbaum, Lisa Morgan, Lori Rajput, and Michelle Howard-Herbein who will join the committee in July.

David Dean Presentation

"Modeling DRS & LTESS Service Receipt and Employment Outcomes for DRS Applicants in SFY 2000" *A copy of the presentation is included as an attachment*

Field Rehabilitative Services Directors Report:

Kathy Hayfield reported that all categories have remained closed since March 2011. However, in November 2011, DRS began to remove people from the waiting list in MSD Category 1. At this point we have offered services to eligible consumers who applied for services between March 2011 and February 2012. It is anticipated that MSD Category 1 only will open prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Hayfield discussed the agencies continued efforts regarding integrated settings. Discussion and training continues to occur to help our counselors better understand both the intent of the law and the spirit of the law. Two webinars with GWU TACE were held for counselors; Informed Choice and Ethics as it relates to integrated employment. A webinar for ESOs was held and 22 people attended. This webinar was a repeat of the Informed Choice webinar counselors attended.

Donna Bonessi distributed a copy of the Integrated Setting Decision Matrix to members. If an ESO would like Donna Bonessi to discuss their individual organizations with respect to this Matrix, she will be able to come to the site and discuss the matrix as it relates to the program.

About a year ago, DRS decided to implement a Market Driven rate system for ESOs. This would replace the existing POS package. To ensure accountably, this has been more difficult than originally expected and as a result has taken more time to develop. Our intent is to focus on the quality of services and the outcomes rather than on the labor intensive process for setting the rate. Kathy explained that Donna Bonessi will present later in the meeting and DRS is seeking input and feedback before we present final plan to the commissioner.

Public Comments

None

Sub-Committee Reports:

Funding Sub-Committee:

Chuck McElroy, subcommittee chair reported that the funding subcommittee met on March 19, 2012. Unfortunately, Judy Hill was not able to be present. The meeting was rescheduled for Monday, May 14 from 9:00 -10:00 via conference call. One item discussed was regarding recourse when an ESO does not complete reports when they have exhausted all funds for the fiscal year. The subcommittee recommended a consultative approach with additional consequences for continued non compliance. This issue needs further discussion.

Public Policy subcommittee:

Dave Wilber reported that this committee met on March 20th. Dave reported that in addition to the Commissioner's updates that the State Code of Virginia language will be updated to replace all references to Mental Retardation with Intellectual Disability or Development Disability where appropriate.

Nominations Sub Committee:

Amy Thomas reported that the nominations subcommittee met last week to develop the new member orientation for new committee members. New member orientation will be held on Wednesday May 23rd at the Tuckahoe library from 9:30-2:00. Donna Bonessi added that all current ESOSC members are invited and should notify Donna if they will attend.

New Business

ESO Rate System – Donna Reviewed the proposed rate setting system as a new vendor rate system. The PowerPoint is attached. Donna Bonessi will upload documents for feedback by committee members. Feedback from committee members should be received by April 27th. Questions from meeting will be added to a “Frequently Asked Questions” resource being developed.

LTESS/EES Business:

EES/LTESS Reallocations

Kathy Hayfield announced that Judy Hill will complete a reallocation next week. She has already had discussions with organizations that will be impacted by the reallocations.

Public Comments:

Karen Tefelski stated that it is very difficult to find ESO information on the DRS Website if you do not know where to look. She asked if website can be updated to include a button on the DRS home page that takes visitors directly to the ESSP web page.

Adam Sass shared that DBHDS will be holding informational sessions for the community to discuss the DOJ report and settlement agreement.

4/25/12 at the General Assembly Building

5/23/12 in Roanoke

Evan Jones announced that the Fairfax CSB will be putting out an RFI for employment services and residential services related to the DOJ report.

Adjourn: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM

2012 Remaining ESOSC Meetings

———— January 10, 2012

———— April 10, 2012

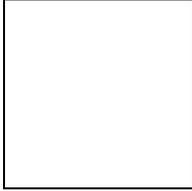
July 10, 2012

October 16, 2012 (Please note this is the third Tuesday of the month and is a change from our traditional meeting schedule.)

Note: VTC sites at Abingdon, Roanoke, Portsmouth, Danville and Fairfax will be confirmed for these dates.

Attachment A –
**“Modeling DRS & LTESS Service Receipt and Employment Outcomes for DRS Applicants
in SFY 2000”**

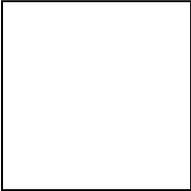
Double click on picture below to see full presentation



Attachment B –

ESO Rate System

Double click on picture below to see full presentation



Attachment C - **Integrated Setting Decision Matrix**

Double click on picture below to see full document

